DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 077 966 TM 002 775

TITLE	The 1975 Objectives for South Carolina Public Schools.
INSTITUTION	South Carolina State Dept. of Education, Columbia.
NOTE	2p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS	*Educational Improvement; *Educational Objectives; Educational Policy; Educational Principles; Publications; *Public Schools; *State Standards
IDENTIFIERS	*South Carolina

ABSTRACT

The South Carolina State Board of Education adopted these objectives for the public schools in 1970: reduce dropouts 50%, reduce first grade failures, statewide kindergarten system, improve instruction in basic skills, occupational training available for all high school students, increase post-high school enrollment, comprehensive program for the handicapped, double adult education enrollment, adequate qualified professional personnel, planning and evaluation, and defined minimum program in each district. A description of the need and a specific objective for each is provided. (KM)

ED 077966
TM 002 275

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

1975 Objectives for South Carolina Public Schools

INTRODUCTION

During the past century professional educators, lay boards, and interested citizens have striven to express the principles and goals of public education. Their labors have resulted in eloquent expressions of man's highest hopes for himself and posterity. These same hopes undergird and motivate our efforts in education today. The South Carolina State Board of Education, fully supporting these basic principles, has chosen to state its priority educational objectives in the form of specific statewide thrusts to be accomplished by 1975. Perhaps basic to this decision is the realization that the role of a statewide board is different from that of the local boards throughout our state. It is the responsibility of the State Board of Education to focus on the critical needs of our total system of education.

DR. BUSBEE

"Today we have better knowledge of the needs in our public education enterprise, greater determination to face our problems squarely, and more resources for meeting those needs...These objectives are attainable, I believe the program is educationally sound, operationally feasible, and economically practical."
--Dr. Cyril B. Busbee
State Superintendent of Education

"The Board believes that the continuous upgrading of education requires careful planning, prudent use of the State's financial resources and continuous leadership in means of improvement. The Board, therefore, believes that there should be a five-year plan for educational improvement... This five-year plan should be updated each year...and it should constitute the Board's primary means of communicating its programs and financial costs to the public and the Legislature."
--Philosophy, State Board of Education
James M. Connor, Chairman

MR. CONNOR

FILMED FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Objectives for South Carolina Public Schools

Adopted by the State Board of Education on May 8, 1970

Reduce Dropouts 50%

Need: Currently a number equal to one half of the students in the first grade graduate from high school twelve years later. Of the remaining youth, many are dropouts who are ill equipped for individual fulfillment in our modern society.

Objective: To reduce the number of dropouts by at least 50 percent by 1975.

Reduce First Grade Failures

Need: In 1968-69, 9,213 children were retained in the first grade. This number represents approximately 15% of the total in grade one and is substantially above the national average. The high failure rate in the first grade is viewed as one of the major contributing factors to South Carolina's high dropout rate in later grades. A kindergarten program and instructional improvements in the primary grades are basic to improving this condition.

Objective: To reduce the number of students repeating the first grade from the present 15% to a maximum of 5% by 1975.

Statewide Kindergarten System

Need: To prepare all children for success in the system of education. The high failure rate in grade one and the dropout problem in later grades can most often be traced to a lack of readiness on the part of the child to enter school. Repeatedly, educational research has indicated the positive effects of providing readiness experiences for children prior to entering grade one.

Objective: To establish a statewide program of public kindergartens available to all 5-year-old children by 1975.

Improve Instruction in Basic Skills

Need: In a recent testing on a representative sample of students in South Carolina, 19 to 27 percent more than normally expected scored below the approximate national 50th percentile in critical educational areas. It is apparent that a major contributing factor to these low scores is the inability of the students to use basic verbal and quantitative skills.

Objective: To measurably improve the basic verbal and quantitative skills of the inschool students by 1975.

Occupational Training Available for All High School Students

Need: In 1969 a total of 83.45% of the first grade enrollment of the year 1958 did not enter college. Of this group approximately 35,000 are considered dropouts and an additional 23,000 graduated but did not pursue a college education. While South Carolina has made significant progress in providing vocational education in recent years, many of our students still do not have the opportunity to pursue a meaningful inschool program of occupational training.

Objective: To provide an adequate occupational training program for 100% of the secondary school students who choose it by 1975.

Increase Post-High School Enrollments

Need: Of the 36,427 high school graduates in 1968-69, 11,691 or 33% entered college in the fall of 1969. It is obvious that individual development and the future growth and industrialization of South Carolina depends to a large measure on the number of students who are able to have the opportunity to obtain post high school education.

Objective: To increase the number of high school graduates entering post high school training to at least 50% by 1975.

Comprehensive Program for the Handicapped

Need: With the continued advancement and industrialization of the State, the educational system must provide an effective program for children with various handicapping conditions. The combined disadvantage of a handicapping condition and an educational program in which one cannot participate effectively relegates these youth to a role of limited participation in the society. The educational system, therefore, must provide an effective program for all youth with handicapping conditions.

Objective: To develop an adequate educational program for youth with physical, mental or emotional handicapping conditions by 1975.

Double Adult Education Enrollment

Need: To provide an effective program for improving the educational status of undereducated adults in our population. The 1960 census identified 791,173 South Carolina adults with less than a twelfth grade education of which 493,083 had less than an eighth grade education. (While the 1970 census is imminent, these are the most current data on the educational level of adults).

Objective: To increase the total adult enrollment in Basic and High School programs from the present 40,000 to at least 80,000 by 1975.

Adequate Qualified Professional Personnel

Need: The ultimate success or failure of a system of education depends to a high degree on the quality and quantity of the many diverse professional and para-professional personnel who comprise its staff. Many factors, including pre-service and in-service training, supervision, compensation, and working conditions, affect recruitment and retention of qualified personnel. The annual fourteen percent turnover rate among teachers and the below average salary schedule are but two among many examples of the problems in this area.

Objective: To promote programs to provide adequate and qualified professional and para-professional personnel to staff the state's educational system.

Planning and Evaluation

Need: For any educational system to remain viable and responsive to the needs of its students, it must provide for its own renewal. This demands continuous evaluation and a methodology to convert the identified needs into productive programs. An annual assessment of educational needs supported by a comprehensive educational information system is a vital step toward planning for educational improvement.

Objective: To develop and maintain a system of continuous evaluation and upgrading of education.

Defined Minimum Program in Each District

Need: The primary responsibility of the State Board of Education is to insure a system of public education which provides adequate educational opportunities to every student regardless of his economic status, race, sex, or geographic location. To fulfill this responsibility the following three criteria must be met:

a) The minimum acceptable educational program must be defined.

b) Adequate human and financial resources to insure at least the minimum level must be obtained.

c) Every school district must provide at least the minimum program.

Objective: To insure the implementation of at least a defined minimum educational program in each local school district by 1975.